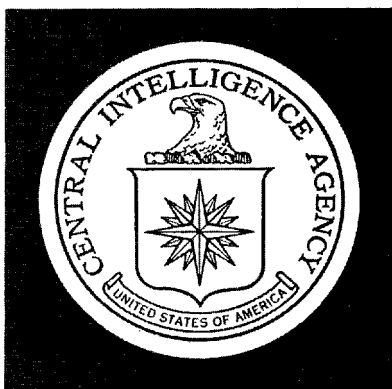


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Israel-Jordan: Recent Israeli activities indicate that they are hardening their line regarding negotiations with the Arabs.

Tel Aviv has indicated privately that it believes the Jarring mission is dead. A spokesman told a US Embassy officer on 23 April that the Israelis have gone as far as they intend to go in their discussions with Jarring. Their position is still unacceptable to the Arabs, who refuse to negotiate with the Israelis.

The Israelis are also adamant about their Independence Day parade planned for 2 May, despite pleas from U Thant to cancel it. U Thant is now "furious" over Tel Aviv's flat-out rejection of his letter requesting that it not proceed with the parade through Jordanian Jerusalem. He is said to be considering submitting his own complaint to the Security Council over Israeli behavior. Coupled with the protest that Jordan has announced it will submit about Jerusalem, this could make for a particularly acrimonious session.

In Jerusalem, Israeli police used clubs to break up a demonstration by Arab women yesterday and arrested 20 to 30 demonstrators. The harsh tactics used by the police are indicative of the prevailing mood among the Israeli administration and public; the incident is certain to increase Arab resentment of the Israeli presence and could lead to further violence.

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